

MARVEL
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THE REAL

Nº36 38p
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GH~~OST~~BUSTERS™





Roses are red, violets are blue, spirits are high at 'busters' HQ! Yes, folks, issue thirty-six of **THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS** is a special Valentine's issue. Love is in the air for Janine in **That Ol' Devil Called Love**, but is her pursuer after her, or is it that little something extra she possesses that he's interested in? Slimer finds himself to be the object of someone's romantic intentions in **Say It With Ghosts!** Could Slimer have met his match for life, or is it a relationship doomed from the start? Peter's heart is also fluttering when a temporary receptionist comes to work at HQ while Janine takes a well-earned rest. She may not be as efficient as Janine, but she's a real **Siren!** If you want to let someone special know just how you feel, you can send them a **Betty Boop Valentine Card** Comic which costs just £1.15 from your local newsagents and has a fantastic **MARVEL** comic inside.

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THE REAL GHOST BUSTERS



PETER
VENKMAN



EGON
SPENGLER



RAY
STANTZ



WINSTON
ZEDDEMORE

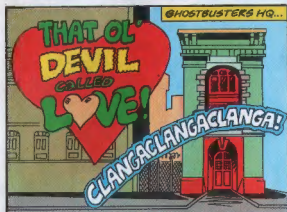


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MELNITZ

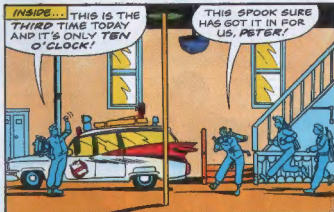


SLIMER

THE REAL STBUSTERS™



GHOSTBUSTERS HQ...

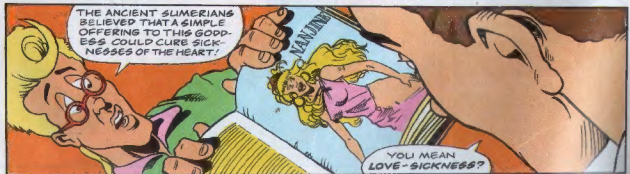


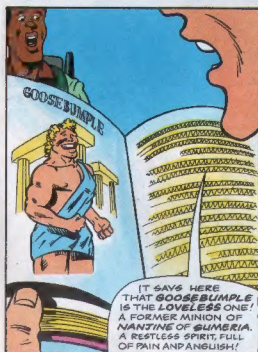
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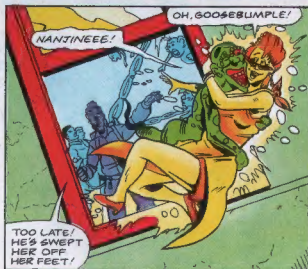
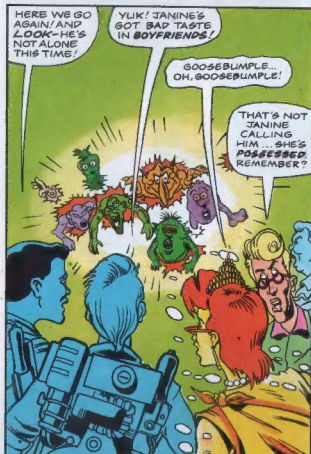
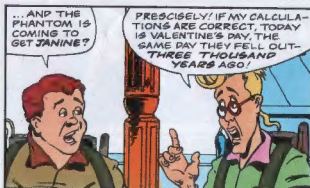


IT'S UP THERE, PETER!



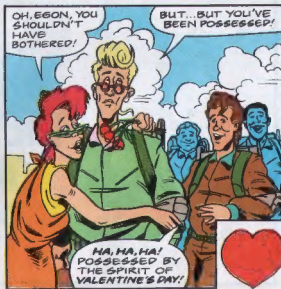




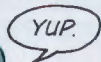




I FORGIVE YOU!



**JUST
WHO ARE
THE SLEEZE
BROTHERS...?**



**...AND
WHAT ARE
THEY DOING
ON THIS
PAGE?**

SPENGLER'S

SPIRIT

GUIDE

Sir Lester Pilaster, the infamous sixteenth century alchemist and wizard (of whom more will be related in an upcoming Spirit Guide) was also a bit of a poet. In the rare *Season's Songes ande Love's Sadde Tunes*, a *Booke Thereof*, we find this sad lament penned by Sir Lester:

*"My Mistress's hart is lost to me, mayhap,
There with the binding spells I knowe
And, by my trothe, the
ghostes that are my mates
My love for her I'll
showe..."*

Strong emotions, particularly, er, 'love,' are associated with the inhabitants of the Supercosmos. Many ghosts are created or maintained purely by the strength of the emotion they were feeling at their demise. Here are some key examples.

ALL FOR LOVE

No self-respecting article about individuals who have died for love could not include the classical myth of Discustus and Prosopopoeia. Discustus was a General in the Spartan Elephant Cavalry. One day, whilst he was invading the North African city of Haulage, he saw, and fell unscientifically in, er, 'love' with Prosopopoeia, the daughter of Detrius, King of Haulage. Surrounding the city with his team of hand-picked, elite



pachyderm shock troops, Discustus sent a message to Detrius, asking for his daughter's hand in marriage. Detrius replied that Discustus wasn't going to get her hand in marriage, or any other bit of her come to that. However, Princess Prosopopoeia had other ideas. She had fallen catastrophically in, er, 'love' with this handsome foreign general with the elephants. She told her father that she would like to marry him after all. Detrius was horrified. His daughter was adamant. "If it's Discustus or nobody..." announced Detrius, "...then it's going to be nobody", and promptly slew his daughter. When Discustus heard the bad news, he threw himself onto his own sword, so great was his, er, love. Thereafter, it is said

that their love-lorn ghosts haunted the windy plains of Haulage, Discustus calling out "Prosopopoeial Prosopopoeia! Where art thou, my love?" and Prosopopoeia calling out "You started it. You invaded Haulage." Only in Greek.

UNREQUITED, ER, 'LOVE'

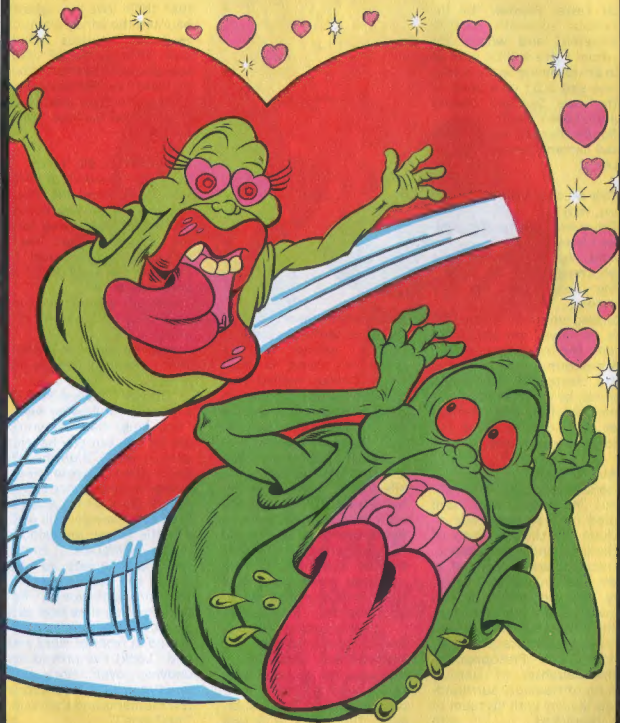
In 1876, in the wilds of Yorkshire, the Romantic Poet, Lemual Porter-Heatbumps professed his undying love for the plain, but headstrong Nora Tabernacle. In his poem *The Maid Of Windemere* he wrote:

*"I wandered lonely as a gull
That soars on high o'er bits
of sea*

*And so, my love, I do profess
That I would gladly die for
thee..."*

"Oh yes?" replied Nora in a letter the following week, "You keep claiming you'd die for me, but you haven't done it yet." "Right-ho, I'll do it then," wrote Heatbumps in his sonnet *Right-ho, I'll Do It Then*, and retired to his window sill with a bottle whose instructions read 'HEMLOCK: Empty some dull opiate to the drains and wait a minute. Then sink Lethewards.' Returning some time later as a phantom, Heatbumps manifested in front of Nora and said "Look! I've proved my undying love!" Norã contemplated his pale face for a few moments and then said, "Yes? And?"

SAY IT WITH GHOSTS!



Story JOHN FREEMAN © Art BRIAN WILLIAMSON and BAMBOS

"Janine! We got one!" Winston held a glowing Ghost Trap out of the window of ECTO-1 as it pulled into Ghostbusters HQ, with all four of the team aboard. They all looked tired – they had just come back from a long plane trip.

"Great," said Janine, hurrying from her desk. "I'm sure this is going to be a wonderful surprise for Slimer."

There was a definite sparkle in Peter's eye at this, as if he was planning something. "Where is he, anyway?" he asked, combing his hair, as Ray and Egon unloaded the Proton Packs and other equipment.

"The last time I saw him, he was moping around the fridge," Janine replied. "You know how he misses you all when you're out."

"You're sure it wasn't just that the fridge was empty?"

"I still think this whole thing is most unscientific," put in Egon.

"Egon, you haven't a romantic bone in your body," said Winston. "You know how lonely Slimer gets. It was a positively brilliant idea of Janine's to find him a date."

"It's a pity it meant going all the way to New Orleans," huffed Ray. "It's all very well trying to do Slimer a good turn, but there are limits."

"Slimer's always grumbling about being lonely," Janine replied. "I thought it was a nice way of doing something about it."

"I'd rather he complained," Peter said, looking through the pile of new ghost reports on Janine's desk. "It keeps the neighbourhood cats off our roof."

"Hey, I still think he's going to be surprised. . . Ssh, here he comes!"

The Ghostbusters' green, ghostly friend hovered at the top of the stairs with a triple-decker marmite and strawberry jam sandwich in his hands, looking guilty, then delighted when he saw they were back. "Reterreeeeeeee Peter! Howooo Egon. Hibe Ray, Winssiton!" Slimer raced down the stairs, stopping only to eat the sandwich in one massive gulp. "Where-been?"

"New Orleans," Peter replied, "Setting up a blind date."

"Uh?" Slimer scratched his head.

"Actually, Peter," said Egon, "It was no easy task matching Slimer's PKE readings with that of another ghost. That was why we had to go so far."

"I still think one ghost around the place and who knows how many thousands in the Containment Unit is quite enough, thank you," replied Peter.

"I think it's very romantic, especially as today is Valentine's Day," said Janine, gazing at Egon.

"Wheebee tokkkin about?" said Slimer.

As Ray was explaining to Slimer about their bust, Egon and Winston busied themselves with the glowing Ghost Trap. Ray explained that it was high time Slimer had someone he could really confide in, and not just the hat rack he'd seen him talking to in the local delicatessen. Janine had virtually ordered the Ghostbusters to find a female Slimer, and one had turned up in a New Orleans restaurant before we even thought to argue with her, by which time it was too late.

"It was a difficult bust," said Ray, "That incident with the soup tureen and the twelve boxes of oranges. . ."

"Yes, that's quite enough," mumbled Winston, embarrassed. "I think we're ready to open the Trap now."

"Good," said Peter with a knowing grin, opening the Trap. For a moment there was silence, then a strange humming sound, as if something was preparing itself for a dramatic emergence. "Most unscientific," mumbled Egon again, when suddenly a green, female-looking Slimer sprang from the Trap, giggled, looked around once, twice, then at Slimer.

She blinked.

Slimer blinked.

She blinked again, then did a sort of ghostly pirouette. It was love at first sight, thought Winston. A match made in heaven . . . well, perhaps not.

Slimer blinked again, did a dizzy spin and headed, screaming for the stairs to the kitchen. Just why he saw the kitchen

as a handy refuge was a mystery – Ray wondered if the fridge was empty after all but it was obvious that love certainly wasn't on his mind. More like a fast escape, on a Concorde if one happened to be handy.

"Maybe this wasn't such a good idea after all," Winston muttered, as above them, came various shrieks and wails from Slimer's amorous pursuer.

"Slimey-pooooo-ooooo! Kiss-eeeeee meeeeeee! It's beee so longeee!"

"Keepeeee awarbe! Yeeek!"

"Do you think they've met before?" said Egon, watching a river of slime start to dribble down the stairs. There were sounds of strange thumpings, as if two ectoplasmic forces were passing from one room to another at great speed, leaving a hideously large amount of slime in their wake. Which was exactly what was happening. "Our bedroom!" shrieked Peter.

"My Spider-Man comics!" wailed Ray.

"My diary!" moaned Winston.

"Your what?" asked Peter.

"Nothing, nothing," Winston replied, as Peter picked up his Proton Gun and examined its energy levels.

"Babeeeee! Loveee you!" came another cry, this time from what sounded like Egon's laboratory.

"Yeeeeeeeeeeeeeeek!"

"Things have definitely not gone to plan," said Peter, grinning again, and switching on his Proton Gun. "I think we could be in serious trouble here."

"Peter! You're not thinking..." Winston gasped.

"Peter! You're not going to..." shouted Janine.

"We can't have two lovesick ghosts mucking up a specialist business like ours," replied Peter, looking away from the hard stares. "They have to be stopped..."

"You just wanted an excuse to bust Slimer," said Janine. "You rat!"

"Well, maybe just scare him a little," muttered Peter. "He did slime my entire Biederbecke collection last week."

"What's a little slime between friends?" Ray asked. A flood of slime

engulfed the Ghostbusters from the first floor. They picked themselves up and all readied their Proton Guns.

"That female Slimer looks very much like our own Slimer," said Janine. "How will you guys know the difference?"

One Slimer came speeding down the stairs, terrified, squealing like a gas kettle left on the stove too long. Behind him came the other one, arms outstretched, looking very hurt.

"Slimmeee!" she squealed in return.

"I think I spot her," shouted Peter. "Bust it!"

Peter picked up the Trap. "Maybe I should keep her out of the Containment Unit for a while," he pondered, staring at Slimer. "Just to keep you in check!" Slimer wailed and promised not to slime a single record for at least a week. Of course, everyone knew how bad Slimer's time-keeping was, but they also insisted that the ghost should be dealt with quickly.

"Phew," said Egon, as Peter took the Trap down to the basement.

"That was a narrow escape. Women can be so difficult, even when they're ghosts."

Janine gave him another hard stare, turned with a loud "Hmf!" and walked back to her desk. Winston groaned. Peter laughed from the top of the basement stairs. Ray looked bemused. Slimer looked grateful. "Did I say something wrong?" said Egon.

"Let's just say that we'll clear this mess up while you go on a very important mission," Winston replied.

"What's that?" Egon looked worried.

"Go and buy Janine some flowers – after all, it is Valenslime's Day!"



SLIME TIME!

Slimer wants your jokes! Send 'em to: **SLIME TIME**
Marvel Comics Ltd
13/15 Arundel Street
London
WC2



Why wasn't the skeleton popular with the girls at parties?
He wasn't very much to look at!

— Michael Reagan, Co Donegal

Did you hear about the two unmarried ghosts who lived together?

They believed in doing what comes supernaturally!

— Mark Grafton, Kent

Why did the girl marry the spook?

She didn't know what possessed her!

— Gary Hammond, Bath

What happened when the Romeo Ghost met the Juliet Ghost?

It was love at first fright!

— Janet Colman, Liverpool

Who did the monster marry?
His ghoul-friend!

— Matthew Adams, Bristol

How do bats find each other in the dark?

Delightful!

— Carl Davidson, Mid Glamorgan

Why did the cannibal go to the wedding reception?

So he could toast the bride!

— Jonathan Miller, Cheshire

What do you call a pretty ghost?
Boooo-tiful!

— Lisa Kemp, South Shields

Did you hear about the ghosts that got married in a lighthouse?

Their marriage is on the rocks!

— Madeline Carter, Birmingham

How does a magician propose marriage?

He says 'Will you be my wife to halve and to hold!'

— Paul Gladstone, Manchester

What famous play about ghosts in love was written by William Shakespeare?

Romeo and Ghouliet!

— Peter Shearer, Middlesex

Which type of street is home to most ghosts?

A deadend!

— James Ellis, Scarborough

What does a female bride throw to her bridesmaids at her wedding?

Her boooo-quet!

— Sharon Farow, Colchester

Why should you beware of beautiful witches?

Because they'll sweep you off your feet!

— Stephen Clarke, Hammersmith

What is the Ghostbusters' favourite comedy show?

Only Ghouls and Horses!

— Ian Grubb

Have you ever seen an invisible ghost?

— Benjamin de Craris, East Sussex

ECTO-BABY

This class three, repeating phantasm was found scaring the customers away at the new toy department of a New York store. This type of spectre is normally child's play, but the Ghostbusters hadn't counted on the Ecto-baby having a rather unusual talent. Egon referred to it as an Ecto-morphic-transference capacity—a term which describes a ghost that can change the shape and form of material objects. With a single wave of it's rattle, the Ecto-baby turned the Ghostbusters into their child-like forms. This did not leave the team in the best shape to bust the menacing midget, but luckily, it mistook the Ghost Trap for a toy train and busted itself by accident. Once suspended in the ion grid of the Trap, the ghost lost its power over the Ghostbusters and they returned to their usual shape and size.



THUNDERCATS™

HO!



Hi! Snarf here! With some news of the *brilliant* younger looking Thundercats comic!



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Snarf! Snarf!



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GH⁰ST WRITING!



Gee, our postman is really struggling now, but keep those letters coming in—I'm beginning to feel loved at last!

Dear Peter . . .

Do you ever clean your shoes and how many pairs of socks has Egon got?

—Carole Strand, Herts

Gee, Carole, there's a question that pushes the boundaries of scientific discovery to their limits! Yes we do clean our shoes—and quite often with Slimer around. I'm not sure exactly how many pairs of socks Egon has got. Presumably more than the rest of us, as he uses them to cultivate his spore samples in.

What is it like living in New York?

—Tim Cryan, Telford

Well, it's like living in New York, really! What's it like living in Telford?

May I ask you two questions;

1. Why do you fall in love with all the girls?
2. Did you have a job before you were a Ghostbuster?

—Peter Ellis, Warrington

Thanks for your questions, Peter. 1. I do, don't I? See, Adrian Miller of Solihull, I do go out with girls! I just love women.

2. Before I was a Ghostbuster, I did research at Weaver Hall University. It wasn't really a job as such, but it did pay the rent and was a lot of fun. Not as much fun as Ghostbusters of course!

I have some questions;

1. Why does Egon use such long words?
2. Why don't you bust Slimer because he gets right up my nose?

—Philip Betts, Norwich

Thanks for your letter, Phillip.

1. We don't know why he uses such long words either. Half the time, we don't even understand what he's saying, so there's not much point in trying to get him to explain his strange vocabulary. 2. He gets up your nose? Gee, that must be painful. I couldn't bust Slimer. Don't tempt me, I'm trying to be nice to the little gunk-ball!

Why does Ray or Winston always drive ECTO-1?

—Alex Marison, Swansea

That's the very question I ask myself all the time! Still, both of them are marginally better drivers than Egon.

Is Slimer a boy or a girl?

—Stephanie Croxford, Buckinghamshire

Ha ha ha! We've always assumed that Slimer was a boy. If he's not, that probably explains why he always slimes me—Women can't resist me!

What colour is ecto-slime?

—Michael Richards, Workson

Well, Michael, that depends on the colour of the spook. Generally green spooks produce green slime, orange spooks, orange slime and so on.

Who started the Ghostbusters?

—Bobby Garland, Essex

That was my fault, I did that! When we left Weaver Hall University, it seemed like a good idea to put all our knowledge of the supernatural to some use. We were broke and The World needed saving. A perfect combination.

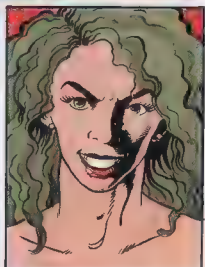
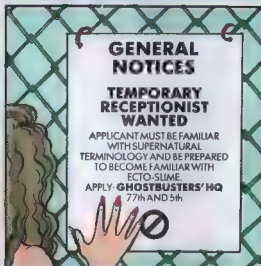
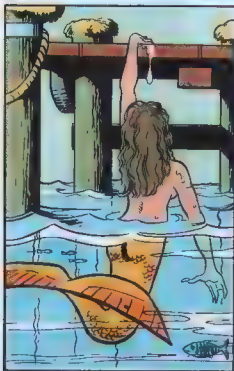
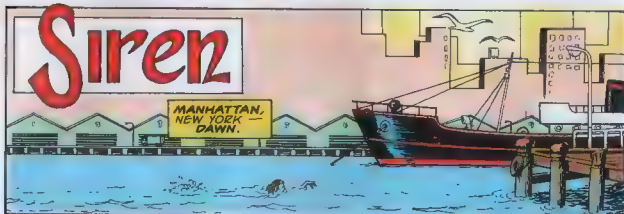
Why did you have different colour suits in the cartoon, but they were all the same in the film?

—Michael Steele, Dorset

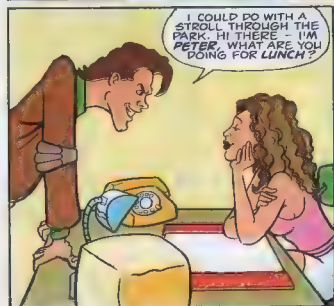
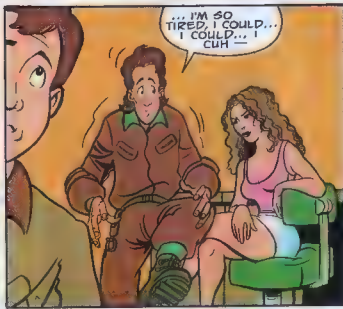
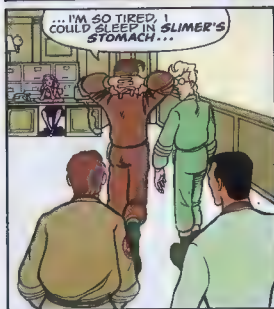
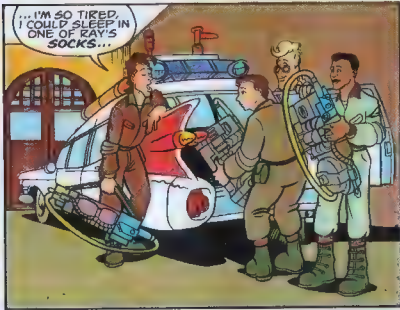
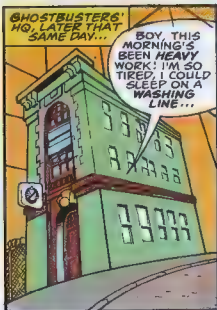
Things change, Michael. For instance, Ray's got fatter. If all our uniforms were the same colour, he would be struggling to squeeze into one of the other outfits that was too small every time the alarm rang. Anyway, I think it's kind of nice to have some individuality in the team!

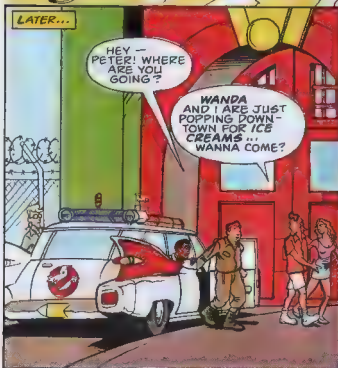
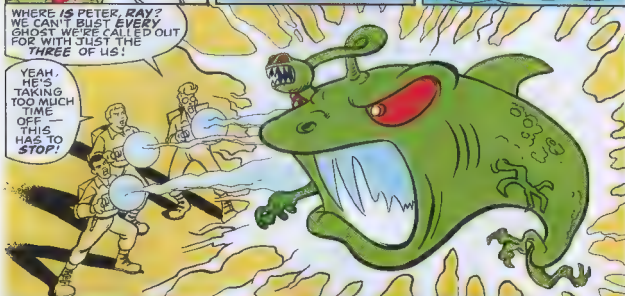
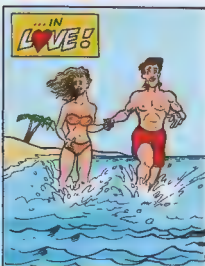
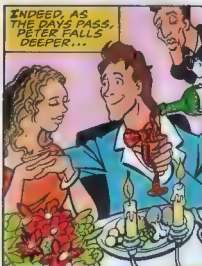
Ghost Writing, Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2

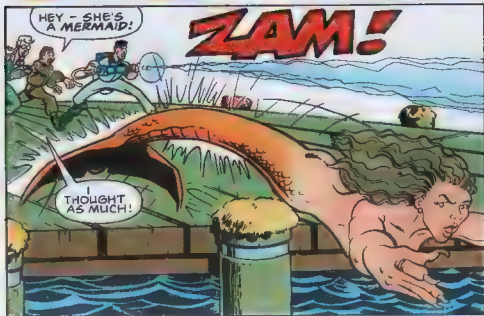
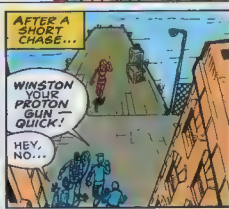
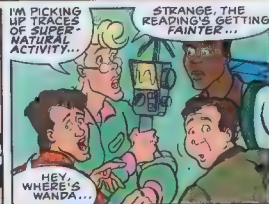
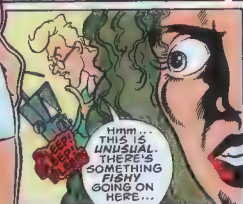
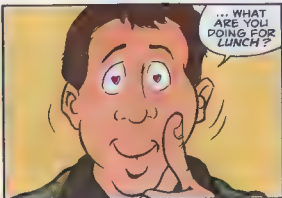
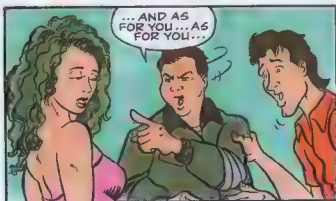
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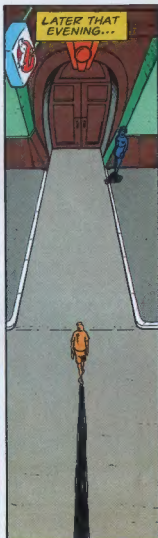


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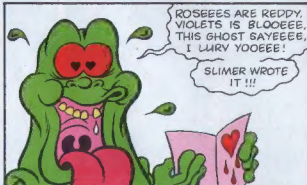


BLIMEY!
IT'S...

SLIMER!



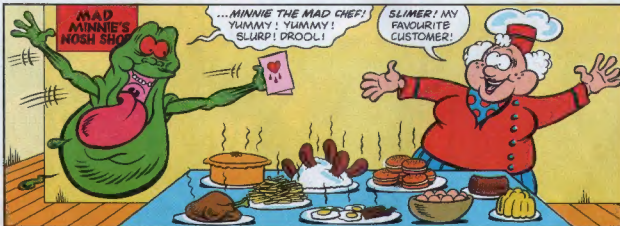
IT'S VALENTINE'S DAY, AND SLIMER IS GOING TO DELIVER A VALENTINE'S CARD...



IS THE CARD FOR SLIMER'S FAVOURITE FILM ACTRESS, LOLA LABOMBA...?



THEN WHO COULD IT BE FOR...?



KISS...

KISS

SMACK!

IN JUST 7 DAYS

...AND MAKE UP!



THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

☐ **TRANSFORMERS 205** Get ready for the incredible wrap-up to the greatest Transformers story of all! Is it possible? Has the future Decepticon, Galvatron, actually achieved his ambition – the annihilation of every other living Transformer? It certainly seems that way! Don't dare miss the nail-biting final chapter of *Time Wars*, by Furman and Sullivan!

☐ **THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS 36** It's true – there's a new receptionist at Ghostbusters HQ! What's become of Janine, and what strange hold does the new girl have over Peter? Siren, by Alan and Larcombe, holds the answers! The haunted romances continue in *That Ol' Devil Called Love*, by Carnell and Williams, and *Say It With Ghosts* by Freeman.

☐ **DRAGON'S CLAWS 9** The cataclysmic conclusion to the N.U.R.S.E. saga! As Dragon and Slaughterhouse battle for the amusement of N.U.R.S.E.'s maniacal Matron, the Claws must form a decidedly uneasy alliance... with the Evil Dead! *Treatment* is by Furman and Senior.

☐ **THUNDERCATS 93** Lion-O's problems are just beginning! In order to free Jaga he must face the greatest challenges of his life. The all-out Thundercats action continues in part 2 of *Astral Prison*, by Zimmerman, Rimmer, Wetherell and Baskerville. Plus, text adventure in *Mightier Than The Sword*, by Steven Alan.

DON'T MISS...

☐ **ACTION FORCE MONTHLY 10** There are no less than four thrill-packed Action Force stories in this month's issue. When a Crimson Guardsman goes berserk in a bank, Action Force face a tricky hostage situation. *Bloodbrothers* is by Rimmer and Johnson. Plus, *B.A.T.S Out Of Hell*, by Rimmer, Marshall and Harwood, *War Correspondence*, by Rimmer, Wildman and Baskerville, and a second outing for *Run To Ground*!

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